



# NJPEP & CONTENT *Flash!*

## Professional Development for New Jersey Educators

June/July 2008

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<http://www.nj.gov/education/njpep>

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### Front Page Items: <http://www.nj.gov/education/njpep/>

1. Check out **NJPEP\_PDOnline** at <http://www.nj.gov/education/njpep/pd/onlinePD/index.html> for upcoming courses.
2. The U.S. Department of Education's Teacher-to-Teacher Initiative (<https://www.t2tweb.us/mgmt/Events/EventFiles/E0000-F01101.htm>) provides **free K-12 summer workshops** in a variety of content areas.

### Professional Development

1. **MIT OpenCourseWare (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)** (<http://ocw.mit.edu/OcwWeb/web/home/home/index.htm>) - OCW is a free publication of course materials used at MIT.
  - Obtain lecture notes, problem sets, labs and more.
  - Watch lecture videos and demonstrations.
  - Study a wide variety of subjects.
2. **The Knowledge Loom** (<http://knowledgeloom.org/index.jsp>) provides theme-based collections of promising practices in: literacy and math instruction, education technology, and school organization.

### Selected Resources for Teachers, Parents, and Students

1. **Authentic Persuasive Writing to Promote Summer Reading** ([http://www.readwritethink.org/lessons/lesson\\_view.asp?id=312](http://www.readwritethink.org/lessons/lesson_view.asp?id=312)) provides an opportunity for high school students to create persuasive brochures or flyers that promote the books they have identified. Categories for booklists might include genres, themes, or specific authors.
2. **Check out these interactive science activities:**
  - **Star Chart** (<http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/education/astronomy/constellations/index.html>) - Explore the night sky throughout the year. See if you can find 25 constellations in this simulation.
  - **Microscope** (<http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/education/biology/microscope/index.html>) - Select a sample on a petri dish and click to learn more about its typical structure and components.
3. **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Resources** (<http://pbskids.org/go/index.html>) - Several new online science and math games are available from **PBS KIDS GO!** The games and activities below provide teachers and students with fresh approaches to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) that are critical to 21st century learning.
  - **Cyberchase: Math and Sports** ([http://pbskids.org/cyberchase/math\\_and\\_sports/](http://pbskids.org/cyberchase/math_and_sports/)) - Explore this thematic unit that encourages kids to see and practice the math concepts used to plan, track, and calculate facts and figures in sporting events.
  - **Dragonfly TV: Nanobots** ([http://pbskids.org/dragonflytv/games/game\\_nano.html](http://pbskids.org/dragonflytv/games/game_nano.html)) - Learn more about nanotechnology by adjusting the positive and negative charges to guide a nanobot through an obstacle course.
  - **Fetch!: Geyser Surpriser** (<http://pbskids.org/fetch/games/geyser/index.html>) - Discover what is required for a geyser to exist by manipulating three of the elements that make up a geyser.
  - **Fetch!: CSI: Squeak Sneak** ([http://pbskids.org/fetch/games/csi\\_1/index.html](http://pbskids.org/fetch/games/csi_1/index.html)) - Use problem-solving and logical reasoning strategies to deduce who stole Ruff's squeaky toy.



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New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards:  
<http://www.nj.gov/njed/aps/cccs/>

Contact Information for Core Curriculum Content Standards:  
<http://www.nj.gov/njed/aps/contact.htm>

Professional Standards:  
<http://www.nj.gov/njed/profdev/>

Contact Information for Professional Standards:  
<http://www.nj.gov/njed/profdev/contact.shtml>

Evaluation and Assessment:  
<http://www.nj.gov/njed/assessment/>

Contact Information for Evaluation and Assessment:  
<http://www.nj.gov/njed/assessment/contact.shtml>

## Selected Resources for Teachers, Parents, and Students (continued)

4. **Summer Home Learning Recipes** provides summer time activities for writing, math, reading and more.
  - K-3 (<http://www.kidsource.com/kidsource/content/reck-3.html>)
  - 4-5 (<http://www.kidsource.com/kidsource/content/rec4-5.html>)
  - 6-8 (<http://www.kidsource.com/kidsource/content/rec6-8.html>)
5. **Summer Activities: Learning Beyond the Classroom** (<http://www.readwritethink.org/beyondtheclassroom/summer/>) - Find activities and resources (including podcasts) to help children and teens explore reading and writing all summer long.
6. **If you're planning a trip to the Smithsonian Institution this summer**, here are tips and suggestions for:
  - families ([http://www.smithsonianeducation.org/families/at\\_the\\_smithsonian/make\\_the\\_most.html](http://www.smithsonianeducation.org/families/at_the_smithsonian/make_the_most.html))
  - educators ([http://www.smithsonianeducation.org/educators/field\\_trips/field\\_trips.html](http://www.smithsonianeducation.org/educators/field_trips/field_trips.html))
7. **Save the Bill of Rights** (<http://www.constitutioncenter.org/explore/ForKids/index.shtml>) is an interactive game from the National Constitution Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In this game, the official National Computer has crashed. Students come to the rescue by locating lost amendments.

